

INTELLIGENCE 35
COUNTRY West Germany

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO. [redacted]

TOPIC Information from the Area of Armeegruppe Nord

25X1A

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED [redacted] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT [redacted] 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED [redacted] DATE PREPARED 23 July 1953

REFERENCES [redacted]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [redacted]

REMARKS [redacted]

SOURCE
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1. Martial law was proclaimed in the area of Altwarz early in the morning on 17 June 1953. Two guard companies instead of the usual one were on duty. The KVP units remained close to their quarters. No departure was observed, however. On 24 June, martial law was lifted. No Soviet actions were observed on and after 17 June. The attitude of the KVP officers was unchanged. 1

2. During the week following 17 June 1953, about 350 KVPs were dismissed on short notice in the Altwarz area, bringing the number of personnel dismissed since June to about 700. Some of these dismissed soldiers asked for work at the Bau-unionen. [redacted] 2

3. The arms of the KVP in Torgelow were confiscated by the Soviet Army in conjunction with the situation on 17 June 1953. Soviet soldiers occupied all bridges, postal offices and other vital enterprises on that day, but were withdrawn and replaced by unarmed KVP sentries on 18 June. On 19 June, all arms were returned to the KVP, and normal training activity was resumed on 21 June. After the rebellion, the personnel of the KVP units were asked whether they wanted to be dismissed. Although about 60 percent requested to be dismissed immediately only VPs who had completed their 3-year term were dismissed. 3

4. On 17 June, a column of 19 trucks [redacted] carrying naval soldiers and 2 motorcycles proceeded from the direction of Ferdinandshof toward Pasewalk. 25X1B At 8 p.m. on 18 June, 15 workshop trucks [redacted] and, at 8:30 p.m., a column of 12 armored personnel carriers each occupied by 10 men came from the direction of Pasewalk and proceeded toward Torgelow. At 5 a.m. on 28 June, a column of 15 covered trucks [redacted] proceeded from Torgelow toward Pasewalk. At 7 p.m. on 3 July, 4 prime movers towing 152-mm field howitzers moved from Torgelow toward the Pasewalk railroad station where they were loaded. (F-3) 3

5. From 15 June to 10 July, Pasewalk was still occupied to capacity by KVP. There were no riots. On 17 June, troops were trucked to Berlin and returned on 25 June. At night on 18 June, about 300 KVPs occupied the Pasewalk railroad station for a period of four hours. On 19 June, Torgelow was guarded by Soviet soldiers. The restricted area near Torgelow was apparently only lightly occupied on 29 June. 4

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6. At 6 p.m. on 3 July, five caterpillar tractors, 5 truck with baggage and pertinent AA guns of about 88 mm caliber and personnel black-bordered black epaulets, who had come from the direction of Vierreck were loaded at the Pasewalk railroad station. Six prime movers, 5 x 152-mm field howitzers and 7 trucks were loaded on 4 July. Seven prime movers, 6 field howitzers and 12 trucks towing 76.2-mm guns were loaded on 5 July and, at about 9:30 p.m., departed toward Berlin.⁵
7. At 11 a.m. on 7 July, a train of about 16 boxcars carrying 800 KVPs wearing red-bordered black epaulets passed through Pasewalk toward Jatznick.⁶

25X1A 1. [REDACTED] Comment. The information confirms the impression that the bulk of Armeegruppe Nord was not employed during the rebellion.

25X1A 2. [REDACTED] Comment. This information must be doubted as there seems to be no credible reason for this action. It is rather unlikely that the KVPs should have simply been dismissed and thus thrown on the street. It must rather be assumed that the unreliable elements which would have been involved were placed under some sort of surveillance following their dismissal. Dismissed soldiers were usually sent to their home towns where they have to report to the police, the labor office and the local registration section. The information on these unusual dismissals is probably partially based on rumors and speculation and gives exaggerated figures.

25X1A 3. [REDACTED] Comment. This information conflicts with paragraph 1 of the present report. There seems to be no reason why Soviet troops should have temporarily disarmed the KVP in the area of Torgelow while no such action was taken at other posts of Armeegruppe Nord such as Pasewalk, Frora, Prenzlau and Altwarpe. It is believed that source erred or was under the influence of rumors. It is credible, however, that Soviet troops were employed to guard the Torgelow railroad station and other important points, although KVP was employed for this purpose at other places.

25X1A 4. [REDACTED] Comment. Other sources also reported that KVP stationed in Pasewalk was employed against the uprising in Berlin. Other reports also indicated that KVP was employed at railroad stations and railroad lines in the area of Pasewalk. See [REDACTED] 25X1A

25X1A 5. [REDACTED] Comment. A report by another source indicated that, on 12 July, troops were also transferred from Prenzlau to the area of Berlin. [REDACTED] 25X1A

25X1A 6. [REDACTED] Comment. This train probably proceeded from Jatznick toward Torgelow and Eggesin.

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